

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-3, 9-12, 14 and 16 remain pending in the present application. Claims 9 and 11 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

### **ALLOWED CLAIMS**

Claims 1-3, 10, 12, 14 and 16 have been allowed.

### **REJOINDER**

Applicants respectfully request the rejoinder of withdrawn Claims 9 and 11. Applicants have amended Claims 9 and 11 to be consistent with allowed Claim 1.

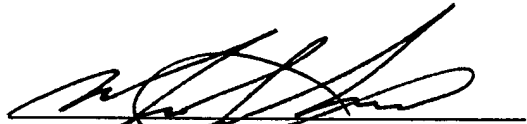
### **CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 6, 2005

By:

  
Michael J. Schmidt, 34,007

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.  
P.O. Box 828  
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303  
(248) 641-1600

MJS/pmg